Howland Wood - Curatorial

Cox, Dorothy Hannah
[Archaeologist +
Former ANS Employee

1932-1937

Charleston, WV]

OTEL VE LOKANTA
M TOKATLIYAN
HOTEL-RESTAURANT

904 Edgewood Dr.
Charleston, W. Va.

Beyoglu Oct. 1, 1932

Dear Mr. Wood —

I am sorry I did not see you when I was in New York — But you see I am writing almost immediately.

Please let me know the value of some coins which I can describe only vaguely never having seen them.

Square pieces of silver from Mexico cut to the wright of a peso and stamped with the Spanish crown (a small counter-stamp) and the value of the piece. The same for all smaller

denominations.

A man here in town had his house robbed and wants to collect insurance.

He had a large collection of South American coins which he and his father had collected both having been engineers in S.A. – These he says are the only ones he can reccollect well enough to describe.

Please notice the stamped, address envelope!

Please remember me to Mrs. Wood and the family

And give my best to Mr. Robinson as well as your self

Dorothy Cox

October 7, 1932.

Dear Miss Cox:

Your letter came in while I was on jury duty. I have had no chance to answer it til now but have had plenty of time to think it over. The more I have thought, the more of a brain storm I got. I do not know, nor do I remember, nor can I imagine any coins that tally with your description, that is, ~~scarce~~ savage coins. There are some small silver coins, round, stamped at Curacao and some others of the West Indian islands that have a very small crown and figures such as 9, 6 and 3, but the sizes of twenty-five cent pieces and smaller. These would be worth from $5.00 to $10.00 each, but they do not quite fit your description. I do not mean to say there are no such coins but I have never heard of them. If there really were such they would be frightfully rare and would be worth from $75.00 to $25.00 each.

Sorry not to have seen you when you were here but we seem to have been playing a "Box and Cox" arrangement! We are still going down to the country weekends and will til we get frozen out.

With the best of wishes from all of us to your own unique self, I remain

Sincerely yours,

P. S. Loving embraces from Mr. Robertson and he sends his best regards to Jack.
P. P. S. Does Jack still collect match covers? We can supply him gratuitously on receipt of his full name and address with a large case containing several thousand, more or less!

October 11, 1932.

Miss Dorothy H. Cox
904 Edgewood Drive
Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Miss Cox:

The Morosini Sale has come and gone. In a roundabout way, through Mr. Newell, I was instructed to bid on Lot 31 for you. He had viewed these pieces and told me not to bid over $25.00 for the lot. Therefore, armed with these instructions, I acted accordingly and got them for $17.00. Here they are! Two of them, the two poor ones, look to me like Nicaea pieces. That is the only nice thing about them! In order to get these coins away from the auction room I paid cash, therefore, when remitting kindly make out the check to me.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

October 20, 1932.

Dear Miss Cox:

Mr. Schulman just called with a lot of Byzantine coins thinking that you were in town and when I told him that you were in West Virginia he asked me to kindly send them to you on approval. He would like you to return them to him within ten days, that is any coins that you do not care to keep. He is leaving for Holland on the first of November. Send them to him at the Hotel McAlpin, Room 1795. Please send the coins registered but you do not have to put a valuation on the letter as he is insured.

Very truly yours,

RR:JG

904 EDGEWOOD DRIVE
CHARLESTON
WEST VIRGINIA

Dear Mr. Wood:

Thank you so much for the information about the coins. I saw the gentleman who owned them and he said they were square and as he remembers it, his mother was in a bank in Bolivia and saw some Indians turning them in and so asked the teller to give them to her, which he did.

Enclosed find cheque for seventeen dollars. Again thank you for your trouble.

I had one of the Jerusalem.

corns of Amery analysed and was so surprised at the result that I am writing to Mother to send you another which I hope you will send down to you and have analysed for me - (Send me the bill)

Jack is acting in children's division of the local "Little Theatre" the show comes off the end of this week so what with school and rehearsals he has been very busy, but will write soon to say he wants the match boxes, though his mother has done her best to persuade him that he doesn't.

With most cordial greetings to all

Very sincerely
Dorothy Cox

OTEL VE LOKANTA
M TOKATLIYAN
HOTEL-RESTAURANT

Beyoglu 193

Sorry I forgot to enclose this with this morning's note

J. H. C.

October 24, 1932.

Miss Dorothy H. Cox
904 Edgewood Drive
Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Miss Cox:

Your first and second letters at hand and many thanks for the check. I was on the point of writing you and then I said you probably would discover the omission.

In your previous letter you stated those square coins were Mexican. If Bolivian, I am inclined to think they might be the old crude shape cob pieces that were commonly made there in the early 18th century. These were very apt to be somewhat square in shape and the different denominations put between the pillars of Hercules; the denomination such as 8, 4, 2 and 1. This was part of the die and not stamped in. If such, they have little value.

Will attend to your peseta piece and have it analysed, when your Mother sends it to me. I suppose you want a quantitative analysis of just the chief metals that are in it. Will await a formal declaration from Jack as to the match covers.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

November 11, 1932.

Miss Dorothy H. Cox
904 Edgewood Drive
Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Miss Cox:

I am herewith enclosing the report of the chemist concerning your coin. I am curious to know if this is about the same as the other analysis you had made. The price for doing this seems high but on looking up other bills I find that this is about his regular charge. If this article is going into the monograph you can later on put in your bill and get your money back.

Did John receive the package of match boxes from Sylvia or did his mother see it first and hide it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Thank you so much
for sending the wine
to be analysed - I
have sent a cheque
to them.

Jack got the
match covers - again
thanks -

Your constant
correspondent

W. H. Cox

CHARLESTON
NOV 16
12 M
1932

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

RED CROSS
ROLL CALL
JOIN

[illegible] Wood, Esq.
American Numismatic Society
156th Street & Broadway
New York City

November 22, 1932.

Dear Miss Cox - alias Constant Writer:

I am enclosing a receipted bill from Pitkin which you might as well have for your archives.

I suppose it is getting too cold to play tennis, badminton, croquet etc. We are beginning to do a little shivering around here.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

904 Edgewood Drive
Charleston, W. Va.
[illegible] 11, [illegible]

Dear Mr. Wood:

Thank you for sending me the announcement of [illegible]. Of course I was interested [illegible] and I wish them [illegible] great happiness and success!

Can you tell me the percentage [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]?

With kindest [illegible] to Mrs. Wood.

[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

January 13, 1933.

Dear Miss Cox:

The Arabic silver coins that the Crusaders might have been familiar with would have been Seljuke or Ayyube coins, with possibly now and then coins of the last remnant of the Abbasides. The first two would have undoubtedly been the commonest. The Seljukes were to the north and the Auuubes to the south. Both were prosperous nations, going strong, and their silver was in good shape. I am telling you all this as I can find nowhere any chemical analysis of the coins of that period. I have looked at our coins both before, then and after and everyone is well made, good weight and the silver appears to be good looking. Therefore, I should judge that the silver in them was at least 90%, probably 95 or a little more. As a matter of fact, all of the Mohammadan silver from the beginning up to the time of Tamerlane and the Ottoman Turks, who put things on the blink, was of good metal, except in one or two out of the way instances on the northern or far eastern outskirts; while most of the European silver was at that time, as Robertson says, "terrible"! Will this do, or do you think some Mohammedan coin of the time should be assayed? Personally I don't think it will do much good.

Christmas, New Year and marriage festivities are over with. The young people are happy and up to date are living together. The son-in-law is holding down a good job or rather what will lead to a good job. They have got a long up-hill road ahead of them but about everybody else has. Trusting to see you on your return to compact civilization, I am

Sincerely yours,

HW:JG

American School
Athens, Greece.
February 14, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Although, apparently, I can go on indefinitely running 'round digging in one place in the fall and another in the spring, this is not satisfactory.

As you know, I did object to living in New York, but also I thoroughly enjoyed the work at the Numismatic Soc. Now I feel I can be more easily reconciled to the city and if there is again an opening at the Society I should be very glad. While out here I have become increasingly interested in coins.

I am off to Tarsus until July 1st. Before then I shall have to committ myself for the fall. So do let me know what the chances are at home, hoping you will spare me more foreign travel, if not next fall then the year after for I really don't mind another dose of Cyprus & Tarsus.

I saw Miss Edwards the other day and she says she had left you all in good health and spirits. She seemed particularly grateful to you for having mentioned a Sojuk coin for her.

My best to Mr. Robertson.

Very sincerely

Dorothy Cox

P.S. I just thought of my dues to the Society – I have lost the notice and want no receipt.

Would you mind turning the cheque in for me? Thanks!

[illegible]

March 9, 1936.

Dear Miss Cox:

I was very much pleased to get a line from you and I have turned over your check to Miss Grimes so that you are in good standing with us for some time to come.

We here have been very busy and have been buying more coins than we should and as our funds are limited we have been turning down a lot of things we would like to get. Several of our mortgages have turned sour and our income is not quite what we would like to see it. Just at the present time there is no chance in the wide world to take on anyone else, although we much need another person. What the future will bring for us is an unknown quantity, especially as Franklin D. seems to be on a rampage and the money situation is way up in the air. In other words, your chances for the immediate future are rather thin. However, if you should blow over to this country be sure and drop around to see us.

Robertson seems to think my letter is cold, barren and fruitless and he has especially requested that I convey to you for him much love and many kisses!

Sincerely yours,

Miss Dorothy H. Cox
The American School
Athens, Greece.

TELEPHONE:
BATH. 4207
4208-4209.

TELEGRAMS:
EMPIRE, BATH.

Athens, Sept. 25

EMPIRE HOTEL,
BATH.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I wrote you last January or there about inquiring whether there would be again sometime a chance of a job for me at the museum. The desire to withdraw from the active to the sedentary increases with age.

Off tomorrow for Cyprus for a couple of months then back to Athens. My address for the next two months will be the American School, Athens.

My best to Mrs. Wood and the girls —

Very sincerely
Dorothy Cox

106

This was found at Cuzco.
I we would be glad to know
what it is — no hurry [illegible].

October 7, 1936

Miss Dorothy Cox,
American School for Classical Studies,
Athens, Greece

Dear Miss Cox:

Your letter just at hand and I am enclosing one just received. I could not make out from this last letter whether or not you received my answer to your letter in January, telling you the sad news that at the present time we had no proper amount of money to take anyone else on. The situation still holds the same, in fact, a little more so, as some of our reinvestments do not bring in quite the same as they did.

Robertson has not been very well all summer. He received the post-card from Sweden and it perked him up quite a bit.

Mosser is married. William McKeever has just resigned. He has been getting more and more cranky each year. Maher has also gone. He came in one too many times with a bad breath. The new man is doing well. Miss Grimes got married, left and went to Chicago.

My daughter Sylvia joined the Bretts in Paris this summer, had the time of her life during the strike in Paris, and had a wonderful time in England between raindrops. As near as I can make out she had a very rainy trip. I think you know that Elizabeth is married and has a daughter about two years old or thereabouts. I am not very good on dates.

Alan West was killed a few weeks ago in an auto accident and Vlasto also croaked.

Dead

The gold dollar of which you sent a rubbing was struck by the Caliph of Bagdad Hishan in the year 106 A.H. or 725 of our era.

Sincerely,

Curator

HW ks

Feb. 13, 1937

Miss Dorothy Cox,
American School for Classical Studies,
Athens, Greece

Dear Miss Cox:

A day or so following receipt of your lettr to Noe, the letter I wrote you on October 7th came back. I am enclosing all the correspondence sent, together with the envelope. Why it did not get to you I do not know.

I trust we will be seeing you before many months!

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

COOK HILL ROAD CHESHIRE CONNECTICUT

December 6, 1937

Dear Mr. Wood:

I had a small collection of American coins and paper-money given me to value approximately. There seemed to be nothing of special value or interest comparing them with Scott's catalogue.

The paper money was, in general, in very poor condition and where I found them listed in Scott didn't seem worth much in good condition.

There were or I didn't find
1. an 8 dollar bill, Philadelphia 1776 in fine condition, (w. seal a pyramid.)
2. a 10 shilling note of Delaware (counties of New Castle, Kent and Suffex) June 1759 — condition fair, has never been mended + hangs together still though cracked.

If these are not worth more than 50¢ or a dollar don't bother to answer, but if they have any special value I would be glad to know!

Very sincerely Dorothy Cox

Dec. 7, 1937

Miss Dorothy Cox,
Cook Hill Road
Cheshire, Conn.

Dear Miss Cox:

Neither of the two pieces of paper money, Philadelphia 1776, which is a Continental note, nor the 20 shilling piece of Delaware have any special value. I don't see how you could value them at more than 10 or 15¢ each.

Miss Goldman called me up some time ago about the Mohammedan coins from the excavation. I had to turn her down because we have had about 30,000 coins come in this year and you know what that is. The cleaning is the hard proposition nowadays for us. A Dr. Miles is working for us on Oriental coins and he may possibly do the job. Miss Goldman knows about this. He has been experimenting on cleaning a few to see what he can do the work for and probably Miss Goldman will get in touch with him shortly.

Very sincerely,

Curator

hw s